

DEER PERMIT AREA 265 HUNTING INFORMATION

2025 Deer Hunting Information

Designation: Three-deer limit

Firearm Options: All Legal Firearms

Special Regulations: N/A

Seasons:

Archery: Sept. 13 - Dec. 31

Youth: Oct. 16-19

Early Antlerless: N/A

Statewide Firearms: Nov. 8 - 16

Late SE Firearms: N/A

Muzzleloader: Nov. 29 - Dec. 14

Late CWD: N/A

Land Cover Types % Tot.

Woody Cover	10
Grassland and Wetlands	14
Annual Row Crops	71
Open Water	1
Developed	4

Total Land Area in 2024 (Non-water)

494 Sq. Mi.

Lands Open to Public Access Hunting

Publicly Owned Lands	Sq. Mi.
State Wildlife Management Area	12
State Forest	0
Misc. State Land	2
County Managed Land	1
USFWS Land (WPA and NWR)	3
USFS Land (National Forest)	0
Privately Owned Lands	
Forest Legacy/Forests for Future	0
Walk-In Access	0
Total for Public Hunting	18

Wildlife Manager Report

Deer Permit Area (DPA) 265 includes portions of southern Polk and central Norman counties. This DPA contains a good mix of habitats including hardwoods, prairie, swamps, and agricultural land; the best deer habitat remains along riparian corridors. Back-to-back hard winters (2022 and 2023) had knocked back the deer population to below goal, but it is bouncing back nicely following the easy winters of 2024 and 2025. Buck harvest increased 32% in 2024 while antlerless harvest was similar. All indications point to a rebounding deer population that is likely at goal levels established in 2019. Reminder - all of Norman and Polk Counties remain in a deer feeding and attractant ban. A 3-Deer limit will be in place in 2025.

DNR Wildlife Contact(s): Rob Baden, 218-846-8476

Important Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Information Optional CWD testing

A deer feeding and attractant ban is in effect for Norman and Polk Counties. See mndnr.gov/cwd/feedban.html for details

2024 Firearm Deer Hunter Statistics

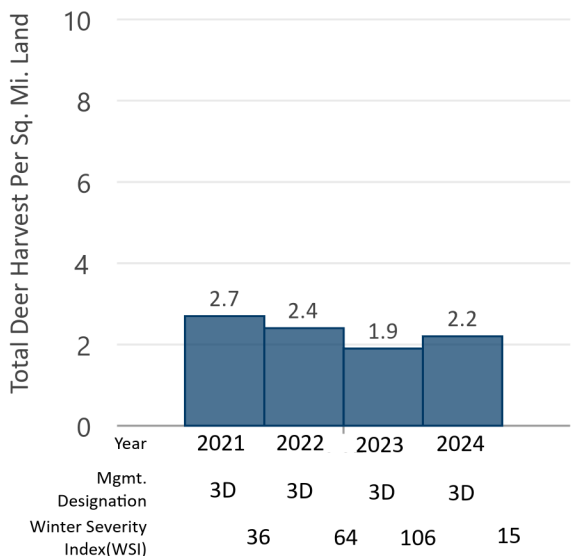
Hunters per Sq. Mi. Land: 4

Hunter Success: 44%

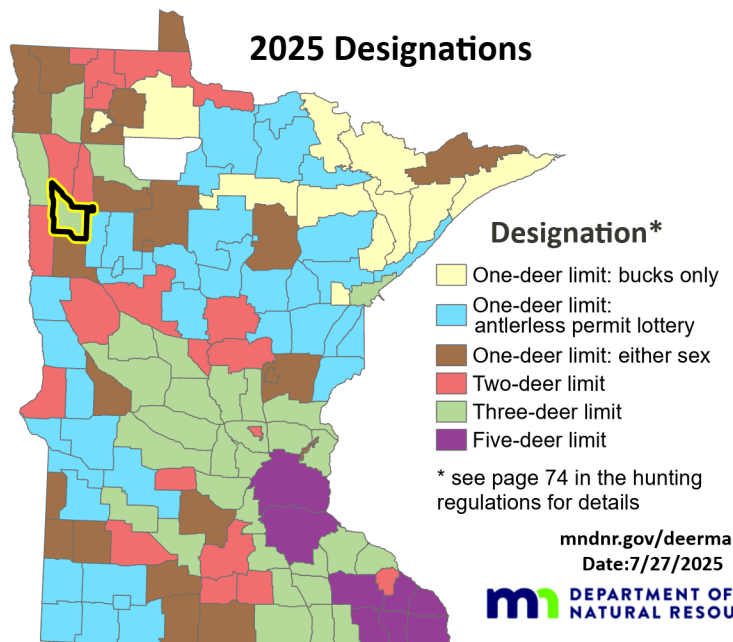
2024 Deer Harvest

	Adult Male	Fawn Male	Adult Female	Fawn Female	Total
Firearms	571	45	235	46	897
Archery	35	8	32	5	80
Muzzleloader	25	4	57	4	90
Total Harvest	631	57	324	55	1067

Harvest, Designation and Winter Severity Index (WSI)



2025 Designations



mndnr.gov/deermap

Date: 7/27/2025